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## Wright State University Libraries Access Newsletter April 2000

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# ACCESS

April 2000

Karin F. Nevius, Editor

Victoria A. Montavon  
University Librarian

## Libraries Publish Diaries of Bishop Milton Wright

*Diaries: 1857-1917*, the work of Bishop Milton Wright, father of Wilbur and Orville Wright and Bishop in the United Brethren Church, is now available to the public.

The Friends of the Libraries hosted a reception in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library on Thursday, March 9, to celebrate the publication of the *Diaries*. More than 200 people were welcomed by Victoria A. Montavon, University Librarian. They heard speakers Mrs. Wilkinson Wright; Tom D. Crouch, Senior Curator for the National Air and Space Museum; Dawne Dewey, Head of Special Collections and Archives and editor of the *Diaries*; and Dr. Kim Goldenberg, President of Wright State University.

May 25, 1910

*"We all went to Sim(m)s Station. Orville rose 1600 feet and 2600 feet in flights. Orville & Wilbur took a first flight together. Orville took me up 350 feet and 6.55 minutes."*

Publication of the *Diaries* is the fulfillment of a cherished dream by the late Wilkinson "Wick" Wright, grandnephew of Orville and Wilbur Wright. The Wright Family Fund financed the project. Jane Baker, head of Wild Goose Press of Yellow Springs, designed the book. Thirty-nine



Reception speakers included (front, from left) Dawne Dewey, Head of WSU Special Collections & Archives, Mrs. Wilkinson Wright, (back) Tom D. Crouch, Senior Curator at the National Air & Space Museum, and Victoria A. Montavon, University Librarian.



Mrs. Wilkinson Wright prepares to sign a copy of the *Diaries* for Howard DuFour at the March 9 reception.

photographs from the Wright Brothers Collection, many of which have never been published before, are included in the 852-page book.

The *Diaries* were originally transcribed by staff of the United Brethren Church in the 1950s. The transcripts accompanied the original leather-bound diary volumes when the Wright Brothers Collection was donated to Wright State University's Special Collections & Archives in 1975. More than 20 years later, Nancy Schurr, then a WSU History graduate student, did the preliminary work of comparing the actual diaries to the transcripts and making necessary corrections and additions for eventual publication.

January 1, 1916

*"My health the past year has been excellent for one so old. My brothers and sisters are not alive. Wilbur, a bright star among the Wright intellects, has been gone nearly four years. Street cars start past today."*

The book is available for \$39.95 plus sales tax at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library on the WSU campus, the Carillon Historic Park gift shop, and some area bookstores. Mail orders may be placed by calling (937) 775-2381 and will require \$3.50 shipping and handling charges per book.

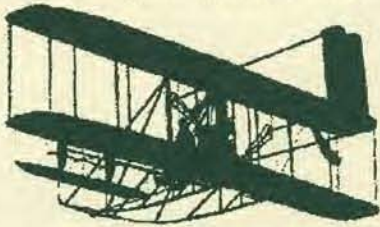
Proceeds will be used to help preserve and enhance the Wright Brothers Collection.



# Volunteers Building Wright Flyer Replica for Library Display

Howard DuFour and his team of dedicated volunteers are carefully building a full-size replica of the Wright Brothers' 1903 Flyer to grace the atrium of the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library. DuFour is chief engineer of the project, which is evolving within donated space at the National Composite Corporation located on the former Defense Electronics Supply Center grounds in Kettering. DuFour has nine volunteers who work regularly plus several others who help out when they can.

In a recent interview at the site, DuFour stressed that accuracy is the name of the game. He explained that



he traced the working drawings from the airplane's original blueprints. His group plans to maintain the measurements and angles within a ten-thousandth's tolerance. Volunteers Jack Murphy and Jerry Beech used a router on a tricky piece and noted that the Wright Brothers accomplished the same results using only a hand-planer and sandpaper. "It makes you appreciate all the more what they did," said Beech.

The original 1903 Flyer was built of spruce, which is no longer available in the quantities needed, so DuFour chose basswood for its straight grain in order to resist warping. The 1903



Chief Engineer Howard DuFour (center) gives work orders for the 1903 Flyer project to volunteers (left) Tom D. Crouch, Senior Curator of Aeronautics at the National Air and Space Museum, and Dawne Dewey, Head of the Libraries' Special Collections & Archives.

airplane also utilized pure flax sinew. Volunteer Jack Ohmart donated a new box of Barbour's Pure Flax Sinew, purchased in the 1930s, which was sitting on a shelf at home. "When we need something, it always shows up," laughed DuFour.

*"It makes you appreciate all the more what they did."*

Replicating a piece of history instills excitement and respect in the volunteers. "Two brothers working together builds another spirit in there," said Murphy, who claims to feel Orville's spirit looking over his shoulder at times. "I've never been in anything as exciting as this."

Murphy, Beech, and Ohmart are honored to be involved in the project. "It's a challenge," said Beech. The group consults with one another on the best methods of accomplishing

some of the Wright's details.

Each of the core volunteers brings a solid engineering, wood-working, or aeronautics background to the project. "Volunteers do whatever they feel capable of," explained DuFour. On March 10, Dawne Dewey, Head of Special Collections and Archives, and Tom D. Crouch, Senior Curator of Aeronautics at the National Air and Space Museum, dropped in and were put to work sanding wing supports.

With most of the wing parts finished, DuFour anticipated assembly to begin during the week of March 13. He expects to have the airplane completed and ready to hang in the Dunbar Library's atrium by the end of this year.

Volunteers with sewing skills may be needed and can call the workshop at (937) 297-9530.

## In Honor of Mr. Wilkinson "Wick" Wright

The University Libraries and the Friends of the Libraries lost a special friend when Mr. Wilkinson "Wick" Wright, grandnephew of Wilbur and Orville Wright, passed away in December 1999. His many contributions to Wright

State University included co-founding and presiding as the first president of the Friends of the Libraries. Wick Wright was also a major benefactor and supporter of the Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Department.

We were honored to have known

Wick Wright and are fortunate indeed to continue to have his wife, Marion, and children represent his interests on campus and throughout the community.

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## What's New in the Libraries?

This information was provided by Jan Maxwell, Head of Collection Development for the University Libraries.

### Books

Resources new to the Fordham Health Sciences Library collection include new editions of two important reference works: the second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Microbiology* (REF QW 13 E56 2000), a four-volume set by Academic Press, covers applied microbiology, ecology, systematics, techniques, genetics, medical microbiology, ethical and legal issues, and historical perspectives; and an updated edition of *Drug Information: a Guide to Current Resources* (REF ZQV 4 S674d 1999) provides an in-depth analysis of print and electronic sources of drug information, including sources on the development and regulatory review process. A third notable acquisition is *Social and Health Landscape of Urban and Suburban America* (REF WA 900 AA1 A576s 1999), which presents demographic information, socioeconomic indicators, crime statistics, and child welfare indicators with information on public hospitals, community health centers, and local health departments to provide an integrated view of health conditions for the nation's 100 largest cities, their counties and greater metropolitan areas.

Among important titles new to the Dunbar Library collection is *People of India: India's Communities* (DS 430 .P46 1998), a three-volume set published by Oxford University Press, which provides information collected by the Anthropological Survey of India on hundreds of existing communities, castes, and tribes. Topics include culture, location, language, biological variation, rituals, work practices, educational level, and technological achievements. In the Dunbar Reference collection, the second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Special Education* (REF LC 4007 .E53 2000), a Wiley publication, offers articles on the entire field of special education research and practice, including biographies, reviews of assessment instruments and teaching approaches, cross-cultural issues, legal issues, and overviews of specific learning disabilities. The *MIT Encyclopedia of the*

*Cognitive Sciences* (REF BF 311 .M556 1999) provides over 400 concise articles written by leading researchers in the field, as well as extended essays that serve as overviews of six major areas of cognitive science: philosophy; psychology; neurosciences; computational intelligence; linguistics and language; and culture, cognition and evolution. A Kluwer Academic publication, the *Encyclopedia of Geochemistry* (REF QE 515 .E48 1999) covers over 300 topics on different aspects of geochemistry including organics, trace elements, isotopes, high and low temperature geochemistry, and ore deposits.

### Videos

New videos to Fordham Library include two titles in the Crisis Prevention Institute *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention* series: *The Preventative Techniques*, which offers techniques for managing verbally disruptive individuals before they become violent; and *Therapeutic Physical Intervention*, which demonstrates simple and effective personal safety techniques in encounters with physically aggressive individuals. *Conflict Management* teaches skills for dealing with common conflict situations faced by health care professionals. Other recently-acquired titles include *Emerging Viruses*, a BBC production examining current research in this area, and *A Human Life Emerges*, presenting a close-up view of reproduction from egg fertilization through birth.

Among the recent acquisitions for the Dunbar media collection, *The Road to Brown* documents the career of Charles Houston, dean of the Howard University Law School and chief counsel for the NAACP, whose legal challenges to segregation laid the groundwork for the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. Other titles include *Half the Sky*, an examination of the role of women in China today, and a trio of films criticizing the role of the U.S. Army School of the Americas: *School of the Americas*, *School of Assassins*, *Father Roy: Inside the School of Assassins*; and *Crossing the Line*.

## Staff News

New to Dunbar Library are: **Leigh French**, Systems Librarian; and **Elaine LaDue**, Library Associate.

University Librarian **Victoria A. Montavon** is serving as Chair of the Library Advisory Council of OhioLINK this year and as the Library Representative on OhioLINK's Governing Board. She was also recently elected to a three-year term on the OHIONET Board of Trustees.

**Carol Brown**, Assistant Department Head of Reference & Instruction for Dunbar Library, has been appointed to the SOCHE Library Education Committee.

Health Sciences Librarian **Rebecca Cress-Ingebo** was named vice-chairperson for the WSU Pre-College Advisory Committee for 2000-2001.

Science Librarian **Jeff Wehmeyer** and Head of Information Delivery Services **Susan Wehmeyer**, both of Fordham Health Sciences Library, published an article in the Bulletin

of the Medical Library Association titled, "The comparative importance of books: clinical psychology in the health sciences library."

**Jeff Wehmeyer** was also recredentialed in February 2000 as a member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals through April 2005. Credentialing is based on an evaluation of professional activities by a committee of the Medical Library Association.

Music Librarian **Martin Jenkins** co-presented "IIMP, RILM, and Music Index: Comparing Music Periodical Indexes on the Web" at the Music Library Association Annual Conference held in Louisville, KY, in February.

Business Librarian **Carol Fang** co-presented "Teaching a Credit Course: What You Don't Know May Surprise You!" at the 1999 Academic Libraries Association of Ohio Annual Conference.





Winter Quarter 2000 Library Student Assistant Awards were presented on March 7 to (from left) Kelli Grismore, Starlisa Little, Amber Sowers, and Elaine Wallace. Not pictured are Kelly Couper, April Johnson, and Shawn Riley.

## Seven Library Student Assistants Receive Awards

Seven students received Winter Quarter 2000 Library Student Assistant Awards at a reception on Tuesday, March 7, in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library.

Kelly Couper, Kelli Grismore, April Johnson, Starlisa Little, Shawn Riley, Amber Sowers, and Elaine Wallace each received \$400 from a fund consisting of donations from Libraries' staff and the Friends of the Libraries.

Eligibility for the awards include a 3.0 overall grade point average (GPA) or a 3.0 GPA for the previous quarter, at least one full quarter of employment within the Libraries, and letters of recommendation from immediate supervisors and department heads.

The Library Student Assistant Awards have been presented each fall, winter, and spring quarter since Fall 1995.

## OhioLINK adds Digital Media Center and Electronic Books

The Libraries benefit from the recent addition of three new OhioLINK resources that can be accessed via LIBNET: The *Digital Media Center (DMC)*, providing text, audio, video, and other types of digital files; *IT Knowledge*; and *NetLibrary*, OhioLINK's first electronic book collection.

The *Digital Media Center* currently features over 40,000 art and architecture images. *IT Knowledge* provides the full text of hundreds of information technology guidebooks and reference texts. *NetLibrary* offers electronic versions of recently-published books from prestigious academic and commercial publishers.

More information is available by calling Reference & Instruction Departments at Dunbar Library, 775-2925, or Fordham Library, 775-2005.

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